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Doctors without Borders: Putting the Pieces Together

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Putting the Pieces Together

Doctors without Borders: A Community Effort

What is Doctors without Borders?

- Medecins Sans Frontieres is also known as Doctors Without Borders.
 - Founded in 1971 by French doctors and journalists during the beginning of a civil war.
 - International medical humanitarian organization.
 - Runs completely independently from religious, military, or political affiliation.
 - About only 25% of the personal are medical, of those, one-third are nurses and healthcare workers.
 - Awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1999.
 - Provides essential health care, rehabilitation, manages hospitals and clinics, performs surgery, responds to epidemics, carries out vaccination campaigns, operates feeding programs for malnourished population, offers mental health care services, and constructs wells that distribute clean water.
 - Delivers medical and humanitarian aid in over 60 countries.
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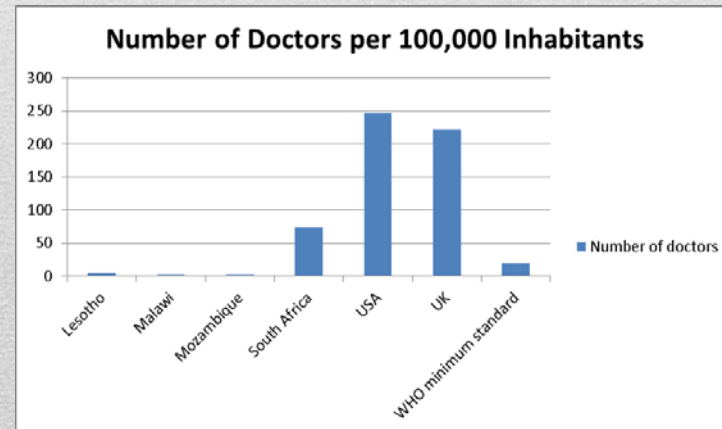
Health Care Around the World.

- About 1 billion people around the world that do not have proper access to health care.
- This problem is widely recognized among the world's governments and health organizations.
- In the 1970s the World Health Organization began a world-wide effort to bring about "Health for All".
- This goal even over 30 years later is still far from reach.
- About 2.3 million people from underdeveloped countries die each year from eight preventable diseases.

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/multimedia.cfm?ref=main-menu-ourwork>



Self generated graph compiled from
<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/>



Joining Doctors Without Borders

- Apply online as a volunteer or office/field staff.
- Have paid internship opportunities.
- Must have a background check.
- Multiple languages are recommended.
- Recruit medical, administrative and logistical support personnel.
- Individuals who work well with others for the common goal of bringing medical attention to those who need it most.

Urgently needed:

- Pharmacists
- HIV or TB doctors
- Surgeons
- Obstetricians/gynaecologists
- Midwives



<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/multimedia.cfm?ref=main-menu-ourwork>

Advantages of being part of Doctors without Borders

- Having the rewarding and memorable experience of making difference in other people's lives.
- Working together side by side with others for a common purpose despite differences
- Undergoing a positive life changing experience.
- Boost ones professional career (thousands apply to Doctors without Borders, but only few are chosen).
- Build one's professional knowledge through hands on experience.
- Build ones social network (members and patients from around the world).
- Gaining leadership skills.
- Learning new customs, cultures, and languages.
- Recognition and rewards
- Traveling to other countries.
- Saving lives.
- Be in one of the first organizations who respond to catastrophic events.



<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/multimedia.cfm?ref=main-menu-ourwork>

Disadvantages of Doctors Without Borders

- Safety is the main concern of many Doctors Without Borders members.
 - Members are in the same danger as local citizens in need of help.
 - Common dangers include:
 - Violence
 - War
 - Disease
 - Members face physical and emotional stress related issues
 - Irregular and strenuous work hours (an average work day is 17 hours a day)
 - The Doctors Without Borders team sees on an average 120 patients a day
 - Overwhelming medical needs from local
 - Members may face a lack of self-satisfaction because there is much needed to be done.
 - Lack of tools, staff, and medicine for all
 - Language barrier
 - Poor living conditions
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Supporting Doctors Without Borders

- 80% of funding comes from donations

\$35	Two high-energy meals a day to 200 children
\$50	Vaccinations for 50 people against meningitis, measles, polio or other deadly epidemics
\$70	Two basic suture kits to repair minor shrapnel wounds
\$100	Infection-fighting antibiotics to treat nearly 40 wounded children
\$250	A sterilization kit for syringes and needles used in mobile vaccination campaigns
\$500	A medical kit containing basic drugs, supplies, equipment, and dressings to treat 1,500 patients for three months

Self generated chart.
Doctors Without
Borders website.org

Various way to donate

- A one time donation
- A monthly donation
- E-card and tribute donation (honoring or in memory of someone)
- Plan a fundraiser
- Major giving of 5,000 or more

One can donate by visiting their website <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/donate>

Parkland College support for Doctors Without Borders



<http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://upload.wikimedia.org>

Prospectus News & Student Government 2013

During the Cultures Fair at Parkland College, members from Student Government and Prospectus News took the initiative to fundraise for Doctors Without Borders. This was an international event where Parkland College organizations could reach out to other students and inform them about their organization. Several events took place such as belly dancing from India, singing Chinese opera, drum playing from Africa. These events were held to raise awareness on the different cultures and customs that our student body is made up of. Many organizations participated such as the Chinese Club, German Club, and Club Latino. Four hundred and thirty-six dollars were raised for Doctors without Borders. It was a memorable experience.



<https://www.google.com/search?q=flags+from+all+over+the+world>

Works Cited

Doctors without Borders. *Doctors without Borders*. 2013. Web. 24 Nov. 2013.
